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not, however, been responsible for the rapid depopulation. The exodus began in February last.

The quarantine season for this year went into effect this morning.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Report from Manila—Smallpox—Status of cholera in the provinces—Quarantine modified on account of improved conditions—Smallpox on steamship Indrapura—Inspection of vessels.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser reports, March 2:

Week ended February 27, five cases of smallpox reported for the city of Manila.

Cholera cases and deaths in the provinces reported to the bureau of health during the week.

Province.	Cases.	Deaths.	Province.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bohol.....	33	25	Samar.....	5	2
Capiz.....	6	4			
Pampanga.....	2	2	Total.....	48	34
Bulacan.....	2	1			

Cholera conditions.—A few isolated cases of cholera continue to be reported from the provinces of Cagayan, Pampanga, Laguna, and Capiz, but the disease shows no tendency to spread. In view of the fact that the province of Capiz is the only maritime province among those affected, it has been deemed advisable to lift the greater portion of the quarantine restrictions which were necessary on account of the outbreak of cholera, and to resume the status which obtained at the time the cholera made its reappearance.

Smallpox.—Smallpox continues to be reported from many sections of the Philippines, including a few scattering cases in the city of Manila. An analysis made of the cases shows that these are almost entirely confined to children under 6 years of age, and that the majority of them show no signs of ever having been vaccinated.

Smallpox on board the steamship Indrapura.—The steamship *Indrapura* arrived at Manila February 20. Inspection of the passengers and crew revealed no quarantinable diseases and the vessel was given pratique in the usual manner. February 26 the master of the vessel requested that one of the crew be examined. This was done, and the man was found to be suffering with smallpox. The patient was transferred to the San Lazaro hospital of the bureau of health, all persons on board the vessel were promptly vaccinated, and the infected quarters were washed down with bichloride solution and fumigated with sulphur. The crew, with dunnage and other textiles, were sent to the Mariveles quarantine station for bathing and disinfection. The vessel is bound for New York after loading, but she will probably take on new crew, with the exception of the officers, at Singapore.

Consular bills of health issued at the port of Manila during the week: February 24 the British bark *Sawhill*, with 34 crew, in ballast, was granted a bill of health for Iloilo. February 27 the British steamship *Loongsang*, with 60 crew, was granted a supplemental bill of health for Iloilo.